

Department of Defense

The department worked with the legislature to pass a bill (HB2439) expediting the construction, installation, maintenance, repair and replacement of civil defense warning devices.

The department's highest-priority proposal was to provide a tax exemption for Hawai'i National Guard members and military reservists serving in hostile fire zones. This was accomplished by the passage of a bill (SB2983) that amends Hawai'i's income tax law to conform with changes made to the federal Internal Revenue Code.

Another bill passed by the legislature (HB1904) provides increase tax deductions for members of the Hawai'i National Guard and military reserves. Benefits such as this will enhance the military recruitment and retention efforts in support of our nation's war on terrorism.

- Major General Robert Lee, State Adjutant General